

**Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC)  
And  
Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board (APAB)  
Joint Meeting**

**Minutes of September 20, 2011**

**Attendance:** David Weitzer, Ben Allnutt, Gary Marx, Patrick Brown, Woody Woodroof, Drew Stabler, Chuck Schuster, Jane Evans, Tim McGrath, Linda Lewis

**AAC members that could not attend:** Kelly Lewis, David Heisler

**APAB:** Billy Willard, Bob Cissel, Vince Berg, Bruce Connelly

**AAC-Workgroup:** Pam Saul, Wade Butler, Bob Raver, Lonnie Luther, Bob Stabler

**Guests:** Dr. Chang-I Wei, Tom Miller, Lois Stoner, Ann Sturm

**Staff:** Jeremy Criss, John Zawitoski

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

**Introductions:** David Weitzer welcomed everyone for coming tonight and he asked everyone to take a moment to introduce who they are and explain what agricultural group or organization they represent.

**UME-AED Cluster Staffing Plan:**

David Weitzer said tonight we are going to learn and discuss an important issue impacting Montgomery County Extension. Jeremy Criss took a few minutes to review some background surrounding an August 4, 2011 letter from the Dean of UME to the County Executive and the response letter dated August 23, 2011 from the County Executive back to the Dean. The letters addressed the new Cluster Staffing plan that the Dean said would not be impacting Montgomery County at this time. However the Area Extension Director for Frederick, Carroll, and Howard counties resigned and the UME decided to change course. Criss said that he called the Dean on September 13, 2011 when he learned the UME was now proposing the UME-Area Extension Director was now going to impact Montgomery County. During the conversation with the Dean a meeting was suggested to discuss the AED Plan for Montgomery County. This suggestion led to the joint meeting between the AAC and APAB that we are having tonight. Criss said that he met with Nick Place and Tom Miller on September 14, 2011 when they formally explained the UME was now going to implement an AED Cluster for Frederick, Montgomery, and Howard counties.

Dean Chang I Wei provided an extensive presentation on his tenure at the University of Maryland starting in 2005 including where the UME is today with their new Cluster Staffing Plan.

Following the presentation from the Dean, there was an extensive conversation including specific questions from those in attendance that continued until 9:45 pm.

At this time the discussion ended due to a County Sheriff who appeared at the door and asked when the meeting was going to end so that he could lock up the building?

Criss asked for an additional 5 minutes.

Criss said that he would send out an email with the other agenda items that we did not have time to cover along with the minutes from the July 19, 2011 meeting. Please note the AAC did not meet in August due to the meeting falling during County Ag Fair week.

The AAC meeting for November 15, 2011 will be cancelled because it falls on the same night as the Montgomery County Farm Bureau Annual Dinner is scheduled.

The next scheduled meeting of the AAC is December 20, 2011 @ 7:30 pm at the Upcounty Regional Services Center in Germantown.